

EPSRC OVERVIEW

LDC would like to talk to research staff about their projects with a view to writing up some case studies. Case studies on innovative projects that focus on enterprise, engagement, impact or career development will be shared with all researchers on the LDC website. **For Case Study examples from researchers see:** <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/eande/casestudies>
Please contact Sandy Sparks sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk if you have an interesting project that you would like to share.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Learning & Development Centre Events

27 June 2012

"Technologies for Researchers"

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/techforres/>

Calling all Research Fellows and Senior Research Fellows - Focus Groups to debate the potential of creating a Fellows' Charter for the University.

The Faculty of Science is considering the value and benefits of introducing a Fellows' Charter here at Warwick.

LDC will be facilitating two focus groups in July, aimed at Research Fellows and Senior Research Fellows in the Science Faculty (but open to all Faculties) to discuss the value and content of a possible Fellows' Charter. The anonymised outcomes of the focus groups will be fed back to the Board of the Faculty of Science.

What is a Fellows' Charter?

The purpose of a Fellows' Charter would be to set out the range of opportunities and support that Research Fellows and Senior Research Fellows could expect during an appointment at Warwick. A charter might, for example, outline career pathways including the stages and processes involved in securing an indefinite contract and/or an academic position and what would be required to achieve progression. A charter might also outline the range of career and self development support available to Fellows and how to access that support.

How do I take part?

If you would be willing and available to share your views on this concept, then please join us for lunch and book a place on either of the focus group session below:

- 4th July 12.30-1.30 Research Exchange
- 12th July 12.30-1.30, Research Exchange

Please email Sharon Neal at s.f.neal@warwick.ac.uk including your preferred date and any dietary requirements.

Career Support

Research Staff have requested 1-1 career support to assist with CV advice, career planning, preparing for interviews or mock interviews. LDC is providing funding for expert career support. If you are interested please can you complete the booking form <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/eande#cs> Ten research staff have already taken up this opportunity.

The research staff provision for Autumn & Spring Term is being developed, please contact Sandy Sparks sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk with your needs.

Useful Links:

See the LDC Research staff website <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/>

Opportunities within Warwick <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/withinwarwick/>

Opportunities outside Warwick <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/outsidewarwick/>
The LDC staff development provision <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/>

E&E or LDC funded Events

18 June 2012

"Conducting Cross Faculty Collaborative Research"

Organised by the Social Science Faculty Led by Michael Waterson, Nick Chater, Keith Richards, Seongsook Choi, Malcolm Macdonald and Sue Wharton. <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/ecr/cccresearch>

Feedback

A series of bespoke workshops for research staff in the History Department. The second in the series ran on:

9 May 2012

"Academic Writing with a focus on writing for non-academic audiences"

Some of the delegates' feedback:

Most useful element – "Small group activities, esp evaluating examples of non-academic audiences & planning public engagement activity"

How you will use the learning – "I will use the information in future funding bids"

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EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES cont'd

15 May 2012

"Academic Writing for Social Science Faculty"

A 2-part full-day workshop to include a session on writing for different audiences & peer review with the opportunity to receive in-session writing support. Organised by Toni Hastrup & Sharifah Sekalala with funding from LDC.

Feedback from Toni Hastrup:

"With the aim of fostering career development for early career researchers, post doctoral researchers, Toni Hastrup and Sharifah Sekalala organised a bespoke faculty specific writing workshop for early-career researchers and late stage doctoral students.

"The workshop was well attended, with 11 researchers from 5 departments. It focused on audience specific writing techniques in for both academic and non-academic purposes. There was also a session on peer review strategies. The interdisciplinary backgrounds of the workshop's participants made the peer-review exercise particularly useful, bringing a varied and enriching context to the discussion. There was also an opportunity to obtain personalised feedback from the the workshop trainer, Dr Rochelle Sibley. The initial feedback from the event has been extremely positive.

"In addition to the writing focus, LDC lead, Sandy Sparks highlighted the various avenues for funding early-career researchers' events. This led to discussions with colleagues from other departments about the potential for building a research collaboration network, with the aim of exploring larger research funding bids."

Feedback from delegates:

"A very good idea & highly recommended for all researchers interested in research impact, Thanks"

"Exchange & sharing of ideas very useful"

"Liked peer review & feedback on paper"

23 May

"Funding with Q&A"

The final in a series of bespoke workshops for research staff in the History Department.

Feedback from delegates:

Most useful element – **"To think about a research strategy rather than just short-term applications"**

"New ideas or pots of funding. Will apply ideas to plans for funding in future"

How you will use the learning –

"To map out a medium to long term funding plan"

"I will implement this learning in my grant & fellowship applications but also in to mapping my strategy going forward"

30 April 2012 - "Additive Manufacturing Technologies and Potential Benefit to Local SMEs"

Feedback from Dezhi Li:

"Additive manufacturing, also known as rapid prototyping, rapid manufacturing and 3D printing, is a manufacturing process that can make parts or components directly from a CAD model through a layer by layer process. It has a significant advantages compared with traditional manufacturing processes, including: 1. No design geometry limitation, i.e. ability to design and manufacture structures of parts or components in optimised size and locations with complex structures; 2. No tooling required; 3. Near net-shape process; 4. Much shorter product development time; 5. Easy for custom design and possibility to quickly change product design; 6. Much less waste etc.

"As to the application of Additive manufacturing technologies in industry, so far only large companies have embraced these technologies and bought them in-house, and there are still a number of barriers for small and medium size companies to overcome to enable them to take full advantage of these technologies.

"To help local SMEs to understand Additive manufacturing technologies, and the potential benefits to their companies that they can realise by applying these technologies, WMG are hosting two free to attend, one day workshops, funded through the EPSRC Enterprise and Entrepreneurship scheme. At these workshops, SMEs can start to learn about both low cost and more advanced CAD software and 3D printing technologies, and with the help of the experienced Warwick SME team and Additive Manufacturing Group within WMG, gain hands-on experience of a number of these intuitive and low cost technologies, and find out how they can access these technologies and use them within their companies to improve their product development processes.

"The first workshop was intended for those who have little or no experience of 3D printing systems, and will cover low cost software packages for 3D modelling and inexpensive 3D printing systems that are within the reach of a smaller company. The programme included demonstrations of software and 3D printing equipment, as well as sessions presented by WMG academics and industrial contributors.

"A total of 25 people from local SMEs and our university attended this workshop, ranging in a lot of areas, such as light design, solar mounting system provider, life saving devices manufacturer, TV media, e-learning, fabric and film welding and tools and equipment provider etc. Some of them do not know much about these technologies and they were surprised by their capabilities; some of them are already in use of the these technologies and just want update their knowledge; some of them were very keen to engage with service provider and our SME team and AM research group to apply these technologies. Overall, the attendees were very satisfied with what they learned in the workshop and there was some potential for WMG and local SMEs to have some future collaboration."

FUNDING

Learning & Development Centre Awards

EPSRC Enterprise & Entrepreneurship Transferable Skills Awards (managed by LDC).

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/funding/researchersepsrc>

Up to £70k of funding available between 1 September 2011 and 31 October 2012.

21 Applications approved up to 31 May 2012:

Funding used
£41.3K

Funding remaining
£28.7K

- Vanessa Goodship (WMG), £504 --- 12 September 2012
- Vanessa Goodship (WMG), £1000 --- June - September 2012
- Scott Crowther (WMG), £600 --- July 2012
- Xiao Ma (WMG), £1000 --- May - July 2012
- Scott Crowther (WMG), £1000 --- April - July 2012
- Sumit Hazra (WMG), £600
- Kylash Makenji (WMG), £1000 --- April - July 2012
- Ruth Cherrington (WMG), £1000 --- April - July 2012
- Bethany Middleton (WMG), £1000 --- April - July 2012
- Remzi Becer & Rachel O'Reilly (Chemistry), £4960 --- July 2012
- Paulina Sydor (Chemistry), £760 --- March - July 2012
- Matthew Gibson (Chemistry), £5,000 --- March & April 2012
- Dehzi Li (WMG), £2,500 --- April & June 2012 - [Feedback report](#)
- V. Goodship (WMG), £1000 --- January - July 2012
- R. Roemer (Physics), £5000, --- October 2011 - July 2012
- [Details of event](#)
- M. Turner (Physics), £1000 --- February & March 2012 - [Feedback report](#)
- A. Lapkin (Engineering), £2080 --- August 2011 - March 2012
- D. Hughes (WMG), £800 --- 6 December 2011 - [Feedback report](#)
- K. Law & W. Yang (Statistics), £5000 --- 30 November 2011 - 2 December 2011 - [Details of event](#), - [Feedback report](#)
- C. Follon (Physics), £1000 --- 17 - 20 October 2011 - [Feedback report](#)
- J. Happa, K. Debattista & S. Czanner (WMG Digilab), £4535 --- 8 & 9 September 2011 - [Feedback report](#)

Feedback from Vanessa Goodship for the activity: Facilitating new industrial collaborations for future research activity.

"This funding was really useful in allowing me to be flexible and respond to opportunity as it arose. A number of opportunities have arisen as a result of these activities and I hope to turn these into research contracts either directly with the companies or involve them in other projects such as TSB. It has developed my outreach skills, selling both myself and the University to these companies. I have learnt that I have something to offer to industry as an employee of WMG and that I can act to facilitate these exchanges. I am very pleased with the results of these activities both developmentally for me and for the success of my future research. New potential collaborators will be followed up."

Funding for Research Staff Networks (managed by LDC).

Funding comes from EPSRC Enterprise & Entrepreneurship Transferable Skills Awards - £30k (until 31 October) or from LDC funding - £23k (until 31 July 2012).

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/networking/funding>

Status as at 31 May 2012

EPSRC
Funding used
£2K

EPSRC
Funding remaining
£28K

LDC
Funding used
£9.1K

LDC
Funding remaining
£13.9K

E&E funding already allocated up to 31 May 2012:

- WMG Research Staff Forum, £2,000

LDC funding already allocated up to 31 May 2012:

- Social Science Faculty, £6000
18 June "Cross faculty collaboration research"
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/ecr/cccresearch>
- Research Staff Forum, £1,000
- Nana Zhang - Researching China, £1,155
- Toni Hastrup (PAIS & CSGR) and Sharifah Sekalala (Law), Academic Writing session for research staff from Social Science departments, £1000 - [Feedback report](#)

Enterprise & Entrepreneurship Transferable Skills Training website:

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/researchers/eande>

FURTHER UoW OPPORTUNITIES

- **Introduction to academic podcasting**

6th June, 12pm to 1pm, Research Exchange, Seminar Room 1

http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/gpp/digitalchange/events_meetings/academic_podcasting/registration

- **Demystifying social media**

18th June, 2pm to 4pm, Research Exchange, Seminar Room 2

http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/gpp/digitalchange/events_meetings/demystifyingsocialmedia/registration

- **Bloggng for researchers**

25th June, 12pm to 2pm, Research Exchange, Seminar Room 1

http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/gpp/digitalchange/events_meetings/bloggng_researchers/registration

FURTHER INFORMATION

- **Research Professional** for funding opportunities. <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/rss/funding/external/researchresearch>
- **News Portal for Universities Worldwide.** www.universitiesnews.com

IDEAS & SHARED PRACTICE

In future issues this section will be focusing on results / benefits of events that we have funded and also focusing on some of the activities happening at the University of Warwick. If you have anything you would like to share or showcase, please contact Sandy Sparks:

Email: sandy.sparks@warwick.ac.uk - Tel: 74121

